

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 02714 100947Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----068667 100957Z /17
O 100835Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1438

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2714

EXDIS

FOR VEST AND NIMETZ FROM AMBASSADOR SPIERS

DEPT PLEASE PASS DOD/ISA FOR SIENA AND MAJORS

ALSO PASS TO DEPCINCEUR GENERAL HUYSER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, MARR, PFOR, TU
SUBJ: TURKISH DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

REF: ANKARA 2567

1. ECEVIT HAS AGREED TO NEGOTIATE RAPIDLY A NEW BASIS FOR US OPERATIONS AT OUR INSTALLATIONS THAT WOULD NOT BE TIED TO THE PROVISION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE. I DEFER TO YOUR ASSESSMENT, BUT IT SEEMS TO ME THAT SOME CONGRESSIONAL OPPOSITION TO THE PRESIDENT'S PACKAGE FOR TURKEY COULD WELL HINGE ON HAVING IN HAND A NEW BASIS FOR US OPERATIONS AT OUR INSTALLATIONS BEFORE THE EMBARGO IS LIFTED. I ALSO BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD SEIZE THE INITIATIVE AND DEFINE WHAT THE DEPUTY SECRETARY HAD IN MIND WHEN HE OFFERED TO "RENEGOTIATE THE DCA." (IN THIS CONNECTION, WE UNDERSTAND THE MFA IS ALREADY GIVING SOME THOUGHT TO THIS QUESTION AND OZGUL, THEIR CHIEF NEGOTIATOR FOR AGREED ARRANGEMENTS IS THINKING ABOUT AN INITIAL "DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES.")
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2. IT WAS FOR THESE REASONS THAT THE EMBASSY FORWARDED OUR RECOMMENDATION AS TO ONE POSSIBLE FORMAT FOR THE NEW AGREEMENT (REFTEL). THIS DRAFT WAS WRITTEN IN HASTE AND WITHOUT MUCH ATTENTION TO LEGAL DETAILS, AS ILLUSTRATIVE OF A GENERAL APPROACH WE COULD TAKE.

3. OUR DRAFT AGREEMENT WAS PREDICATED ON THE FOLLOWING ASSUMPTIONS:

A. THAT A BASIS FOR OPERATIONS AT OUR INSTALLATIONS WAS NEEDED QUICKLY TO ASSIST IN GETTING THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM FOR TURKEY THROUGH CONGRESS;

B. THAT WE CANNOT DISMISS ENTIRELY PROVISIONS OF THE 1976 DCA AND ITS NEGOTIATING HISTORY;

C. THAT WE ARE ULTIMATELY ATTEMPTING TO REKNIT A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOT AND THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE AS RAPID AND HARMONIOUS AS POSSIBLE; AND

D. THAT A GENERAL POLITICAL DOCUMENT, SUCH AS OUR PROPOSED DRAFT, WOULD BE NEGOTIATED AS PART OF A PACKAGE INCLUDING INDEPENDENT INSTALLATION AGREEMENTS.

4. I BELIEVE THAT OUR NEGOTIATING TACTICS SHOULD BE TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ECEVIT'S POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN A DOCUMENT THAT LAYS OUT THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF OUR COOPERATION AND THE OVERALL AUTHORITY FOR US MILITARY OPERATIONS IN TURKEY. THE INDIVIDUAL INSTALLATION AGREEMENTS WOULD FINELY DRAW THE LIMITS OF TURKISH INFLUENCE OVER THOSE OPERATIONS AND CONFIRM THE AUTHORITY OF THE US SENIOR OFFICER. I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD TELL ECEVIT THAT WE WANT CONFIDENTIAL

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NO DRAWN-OUT HAGGLING OVER THESE AGREEMENTS, THAT WE HAVE FAIRLY ATTEMPTED TO KEEP THE REALITIES OF TURKISH POLITICS IN MIND, AND THAT OUR DRAFTS REPRESENT ESSENTIALLY THE LIMIT OF OUR ABILITY TO COMPROMISE. I THINK THAT WE SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO TELL THE TURKS THAT WE WOULD CLOSE OUR BASES AND WITHDRAW OUR TROOPS RATHER THAN TO SUBMIT TO UNACCEPTABLE TURKISH INTERFERENCE IN US COMMAND AND CONTROL OF OUR FORCES.

5. IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS WE WILL BE SUBMITTING A REVISED COVER AGREEMENT REPLACING THE DRAFT TEXT CONTAINED REFTEL, AND A POSSIBLE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON INCIRLIK WHICH WILL ENCOMPASS MOST OF THE "GUT" ISSUES WE WILL HAVE TO ADDRESS IN NEGOTIATING NEW BASE OPERATING PROCEDURES WITH THE TURKS. WE WILL ALSO BE SUBMITTING DRAFT AGREEMENTS FOR SINOP AND PIRINCLIK (DIYARBAKIR). I HOPE THAT WE CAN BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE CONCRETE PROPOSALS TO THE GOT WITHIN TWO OR THREE WEEKS AT THE OUTSIDE.
SPIERS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DODE, DEPCINCEUR.

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NNN

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